

# THE INDIAN CHIEFTAIN.

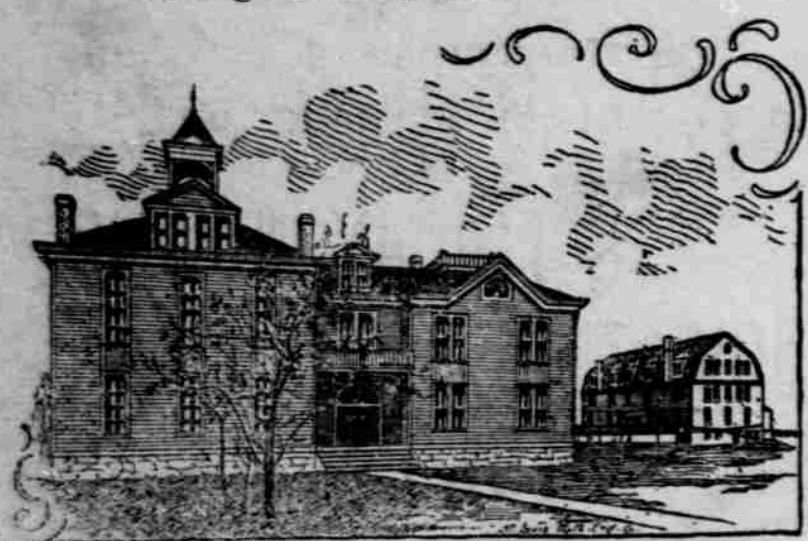
CHIEFTAIN PUBLISHING CO.

VINITA, INDIAN TERRITORY, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1898.

VOL. XVII. NO. 11

## WORCESTER ACADEMY

Offers Special Advantages for those Seeking an Education.....



Don't let these chances slip.

Something of interest to young men who come or write at once.

Young ladies will find a pleasant home. Parents, Do you want to get the best?

Write for Terms to Principal

W. A. CALDWELL, Vinita, Ind. Ter.

....CONSIGN YOUR STOCK TO....

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Union Stock Yards Chicago, Ill. Kansas City Stock Yds. Kansas City, Mo. National Stock Yards St. Louis, Mo.

MONEY FURNISHED TO RELIABLE PARTIES.

John Franklin, Agent, Vinita, I. T.

**LARGEST STOCK, BEST GRADES, LOWEST PRICES.**

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Lumber, Sash, Doors, Mouldings, Cement, Paints, Brushes, Lath, Shingles, Blinds, Plaster, Oils.

**Lumber Dealer,**

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and you haven't as much money as you ought to but you will be surprised at the amount of good goods you can buy from us with a little money. The reason is because we buy for cash and sell for cash on close margins which makes

## Money For You....

We Handle Dry Goods, Shoes, Hats, Notions, and Groceries; Hardware, Furniture, Vehicles, Farm Implements, Paints and Oils, Stoves and Tinware. Give us a trial and be convinced that cash counts. Yours for cash business.

## D. S. Cumming, Adair, I. T.

I also carry a full line of Coffins, Caskets and Trimmings.

## THE WEEKLY INDIAN CHIEFTAIN

Is Now Incomparably the Best Newspaper Printed in the Indian Territory and the

**\$1.00 PRICE IS ONLY \$1.00.**

OLIVER BABY, Pres.

J. O. HALL, Vice Pres.

W. P. PHILLIPS, Cashier.

Capital \$100,000.

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## FIRST NATIONAL BANK,

Vinita, Ind. Ter.

DIRECTORS:  
Oliver Bagby  
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Does a Safe General Banking Business.

Was the first National Bank chartered in the Cherokee Nation and is the Gibraltar among the Banks of the Indian Territory.

### U. S. COURT ADJOURNED.

The Record Broken in the Number of Causes Disposed of.

This term of court has been a record breaker in the dispatch of business. More than four hundred causes civil, probate and criminal, have been disposed of since the first day of court, October 3rd. Judge Springer will hold court at Miami next week, and Judge Thomas will open the adjourned term at Muskogee a week from next Monday, November 14. Judge Springer will open court at Wagoner also on the 14th, and take up the criminal docket. There will not be much left of the dockets of any of the courts in the Northern district.

The jury in the case of John A. Chamness Thursday, returned a verdict of guilty of murder, but without capital punishment. The jury was out a very short time, probably not more than fifteen minutes. On the first ballot after the jury retired, the vote stood nine for finding the defendant guilty in the manner and form charged in the indictment and without qualification as to punishment, but an agreement was soon reached as stated above. The verdict of the jury in this case was no more than was expected by most all who listened to the testimony. Probably no case ever tried in the courts of this country has shown such a state of moral turpitude and utter abandonment of character as was shown by the prosecution against the defendant. The details were utterly sickening and disgusting in the extreme. It is fortunate for the courts and the public that such cases are rare. A lifetime of imprisonment at hard labor will be the fate of the convicted man.

The jury in this case was empaneled Monday morning, and have had the longest siege of any jury sitting upon a single case since the beginning of court. The jury Turner Cochran was acquitted in the court Friday by jury trial charged with aggravated assault. Newton Williams and Martin Bell were excused from the regular panel of the petit jury for the term Friday afternoon.

In the trial of Lon Blair and Oscar Terry, charged with larceny; the jury returned a verdict of guilty as to Blair and acquitted Terry.

James O. Hall, Jonathan Gore and James Taylor, were selected as jury commissioners by Judge Thomas, and instructed to report Monday morning at 10 o'clock.

News of the death Friday night of the young son of Sol Ketchum came Saturday. Mr. Ketchum was on the jury in the middle of a trial and therefore could not be excused until the end of the case.

The petit jury was discharged for the term this afternoon. It is not probable that there will be any more court at this place of any kind till the next regular term in January.

The court authorities have been directed by the attorney general to send no more prisoners to Ft. Leavenworth.

### Turner and Kern.

Robert H. Kern and J. Milton Turner, of St. Louis, are having an old-fashioned love feast, while the former is running for congress again in the Twelfth district. The case of ancient Damon and Pythias pales into insignificance in comparison with Kern and Turner of St. Louis. This political blending of representatives of two races at the close of the Nineteenth century may be a precursor of the millennium. The Republic of a late date has the following laudatory effusion showing the filial relationship of these two men, who are so well known in Vinita and in the Cherokee nation:

"J. Milton Turner shows in a frank and candid statement that a check for \$60, from Kern to himself, was but one of the many transactions necessitated by his connection with Candidate Kern in the matter of securing for the ignorant negroes of the Indian Territory a vast sum of money to which they were entitled under this government's treaty with the Cherokee Indians. He shows how Mr. Kern recovered \$1,600,000 for these negroes. In proof of the truth of his story of the check transaction between Mr. Kern and himself, J. Milton Turner refers to the books of the National Bank of Commerce of St. Louis."

This statement causes immense laughter in the Cherokee nation. If ever a poor, ignorant lot of people on earth were robbed with open and shameless effrontery, it was the Cherokee negroes by

Damon Kern and Pythias Turner. The Cherokees have danced to Kern's music to the tune of \$400,000 in the same transaction.

### Territory School Matters.

Hon. A. S. McKennon, of the Dawes commission, is assiduously working on the school question. He placed the condition before Cleveland personally. Cleveland told him that too much money was being spent on the territory as it was. A few days ago Mr. McKennon laid the matter personally before President McKinley. Mr. McKinley remarked that as so much money was being expended on bad people it would be a good thing to spend money on the good people, and that he would sanction a bill looking to the providing of schools for the white children of the territory. With the Dawes commission recommending a bill of this kind, the secretary of the interior urging its passage, and the president willing to sanction it, there remains for the educational forces of the territory a complete organization and understanding, and a method devised which will bring the needs of the territory children before members of congress. All educational interests that have an existence here should take this matter up and treat it as a live and burning issue. Colleges and churches, bar and medical associations, secret societies, commercial clubs and leagues, all should go to work, and at once, while the signs are so favorable, and bring this matter to a focus. Any action taken by the people will be heartily endorsed by the Dawes commission, and that commission will give every possible assistance in its power to further the cause of education in this territory.—Capital.

### Will Get Their Land.

"The talk about the Dawes commission allotting to the Indians only 240 acres of their land, when the time comes for allotment, is all bosh. When the time comes for allotment, the Indians will stand up for their inalienable rights, and they will get them," said Hon. Holmes Colbert, of Colbert, last night. "There is no law, neither can there be a law, under which the Dawes commission could allot to the Indians but 240 acres of land each, and throw the balance out to the commons. The United States government has no right to legislate away the property rights of the Indians, and if there was a law on that question it would be declared unconstitutional in spite of all that could be done to prevent it."

Whenever the time comes for allotment, and the Indians stand up for their rights, they will get just what they are entitled to have, and no decision of the Dawes commission, or ruling of any other person, or set of men will be sufficient to take away such rights. This is not a "bluff" talk, but is based on fact and law, and when the time comes for allotment the Indians will get their lands if they demand them, and I should think they would certainly demand them."—Denison Herald.

### Pitts the Commission.

"I have 'cussed' the Dawes Commission time and again," said a prominent Indian this morning, "but I feel some pity for them individually after all. I have been camping pretty close on the trail of Arch McKennon all day, and have listened to the advice he has received, to the questions he has answered and to the interrogations propounded to him, and it has been worse than any newspaper interview that I have read recently. He has had to run the gauntlet of lawyers, doctors, townspeople, citizens, non-citizens and all the homogeneous mass of the mixed population of this town, and they have either learned something or, which, perhaps, will be of no practical benefit. Why, there has been enough said and printed in the columns of the territory press to settle these questions without the assurance from any member of the commission, and all is done that can be until Congress meets and passes upon some of the questions. You cannot blame the people for being inquisitive, but it must be hard on Needles, McKennon and Bixby."—Capital.

### The Creek Election.

This will be gratifying news to the people throughout the country, as it was a matter of vital interest to both the citizens and non-citizens of the Creek nation. Nearly all of the intelligent and progressive class of citizens had given the matter due consideration and preferred accepting the treaty to the Curtis law, while the less

enlightened class, who were not advised as to the merits of either measure, were very much opposed to the treaty and put up a good fight against it.

Considerable interest was taken in the contest on both sides, though the vote is said to be light. So the majority vote is much greater than its most sanguine supporters had anticipated.

Now that this matter is settled, we may look for a great influx of immigration to this country and we may look for an era of development and prosperity never before dreamed of. Wagoner has the water, soil and climate around her, and as conditions are now going to be such as to allow these advantages to be developed, she is destined to make the finest city in the B. I. T.—Sayings.

### The Right Kind of a Girl.

There was a young man with a little Indian blood in him who brought his best girl with him to take in the show. They came by team and put up in one of the wagon yards, and then strolled out to see what they could see about the town. The young man saw a friend going into a saloon, and he excused himself every time as he desired to see the friend on important business. He talked so much that it was not very long before he found navigation difficult and the young lady discovered that he had a big load to sustain. She being of a practical turn of mind conducted him back to the wagon yard, induced him to go to sleep, and then she went through him, took his pocketbook and went to the show. When it was over she returned to the wagon yard and found the young man still asleep. She hitched up the team and started off with her lover asleep in the wagon bed. The proprietor of the wagon yard said that he never saw a more practical girl in his life.—Ft. Smith News-Record.

### A Faulty Measure.

There are some features of the proposed substitute for the Curtis law that will not be popular with a large portion of the Cherokee people. The section referring to descent of property is cumbersome and unwieldy and will hardly meet the exigency of the case as it will exist in the Cherokee nation. Then the section touching rights of adopted white men and women will not only meet the opposition of that class but a large number of Cherokees are on record as being opposed to that kind of an arrangement. Chief Mayes would not recommend that portion of the measure. That is, we presume he would not, as in at least two of his messages he is on record as favoring the full recognition of white adopted men and women in the Cherokee nation. That section does not agree with the Cherokee constitution either. But the proposed measure may prove to be a starter that will end in something better. The sentiment seems to be that the Curtis bill should not be accepted, and that something better should be offered.

### Influx of Negroes.

In his report to congress, Indian Agent Wisdom says: "I have received information that there is liable to be an influx of negroes into this Territory which may assume alarming proportions and provoke a racial issue to be decreed by every lover of law and order. In Texas an organization composed of white men exclusively has driven the negroes from small towns to the larger ones of that state. The cities revolt at this phase of the matter, and are organizing committees of safety for their own protection to drive the negroes elsewhere." Mr. Wisdom is right in his apprehension. The negroes are coming here by hundreds, lots of them thinking they, too, like the Indian freedmen, can get lands free for homes from the government. If the courts make the Indians give their freedmen the 40 acres each as stipulated in the Curtis bill there is going to be rocky times in the Territory for a few years.—Gainesville Hesperian.

### An Important Law Suit.

It took the jury just fourteen hours last Friday to decide the suit growing out of a promissory note in which there was rendered a verdict for the plaintiff. It seems, according to the evidence, that several years ago, T. F. Meagher gave a note for \$200 to some parties in order to prevent them from fencing in a large pasture around his farm, and which note fell into the hands of J. E. Turner, and later into the hands of the Commercial bank. The note has been due for some time, but Mr. Meagher refused to pay the same,

claiming that he had been coerced into signing the note. The jury held differently, and on last Friday rendered a verdict for the plaintiff for \$262 and some cents as the principal and interest on same. A motion for a new trial was filed by the defendant, which has not yet been argued.—Phoenix.

### City Council Responsible.

The CHIEFTAIN desires to maintain its reputation for "blazing away" at whatever it thinks is wrong. This time it desires to call the attention of the "city fathers" to the fact that some gambling dens are running right along within the corporate limits of the town. It is in violation of your ordinances. If you don't enforce that particular ordinance you cannot expect the people to submit to other ordinances, such as paying tax, etc. The responsibility is on you. The district attorney told the recent grand jury not to indict people for certain offenses in Vinita, as the town had jurisdiction and the fines would go to replenish its treasury. Judge Thomas would stop the sale of "jam" and "hop ale" instantly, if the offenders were brought before him, and the gamblers would have to quit also. The responsibility is clearly with the town authorities and if the law goes unenforced the odium will be on them.

### "In the Face of Providence."

The three Creek Indians, says an exchange, had prepared to die, and were granted a reprieve. The paper lugubriously mentions this fact and spoke of it as a deplorable affair. It might be, to use one of Sairey Gamp's felicitous expressions, that Judge Wm. Springer "had flown in the face of Providence," and there are those who hold to orthodox very strenuously who do not hesitate to state that the best time for a man to die is when he is prepared. Judge Springer's decision might be passed upon by our Methodist brethren who will convene tomorrow at Norman, Okla., and they might determine whether it is better to hang or shoot a man when he is prepared, or put it off and thereby imperil the man's soul. The action of the coming conference might change the entire jurisprudence of the territory.—Capital.

### Clearing of the Civil Docket.

The civil docket, or, that part which called for jury trials, was completed last Saturday evening and Judge Springer has been quite busy this week hearing chancery cases and motions, as he is anxious to complete the docket this week in order that he may hold the regular session of court which sits at Miami, beginning the seventh of this month. Judge Springer has worked very hard the present term of court and has completed an enormous amount of work. For the first time since the establishment of the court in the Indian Territory the docket has been brought up to date. Of course, there have been many postponements and changes of suits and the like, but the docket has been investigated from end to end and every case has been called and an opportunity given for trial of the cause.—Phoenix.

The man, who, it is claimed, recently robbed an old white man, Mr. Springs, living near Goodland, I. T., of \$1,200 in gold that had been kept by him in a wooden trunk for thirty-one years, has been arrested. He is a negro called "Snow Ball," and he passed South McAlester last week in handcuffs to the South McAlester jail from Van Buren, Arkansas, where he was turned over to Territory marshals. "Snow Ball" was in South McAlester jail for a year for petit larceny. On his release it is charged that he went back to Goodland, robbed Springs of his money and buried all of it except \$5. After his arrest he told where all the money could be found.—Ardmore Chronicle.

A sudden death occurred in the west part of town last Saturday. William Martin and wife were here from Salisaw, and Mr. Martin was helping his brother Joseph of this place with some carpenter work. He had been up on the building, but had returned to the ground, and was looking up at the newly placed rafters, when he placed his hands to his head and made some remark, and at once fell to the ground dead. Heart disease is supposed to have been the cause of his death. He was buried in the Pryor Creek cemetery Sunday evening.—Pryor Creek Review.

Fourteen men who have renters in the north part of the territory passed through today enroute to

## Winter Winter Winter.

"There is a Time for Everything."

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ Cold Weather is Here.

Clothing, Overcoats, Cloaks, Capes, Boots and Shoes and Rubber Goods must be had, and if you have not in your buying prepared for these cold and chilly winds it will save you money to see us before buying. We have the

**LARGEST AND BEST  
SELECTED STOCK OF  
FALL AND WINTER  
GOODS EVER  
BROUGHT TO VINITA.**

Everything is up-to-date in style and beauty, and our prices are made to suit you. These goods are here and must be sold if low prices will sell them.

We have the prettiest line of fine Woolen Dress Goods that you ever saw in Vinita, together with a nice line of ready made dress-skirts and underskirts. In fact we are prepared to supply your wants in all lines of winter goods at extremely low prices.

No Trouble o Show Goods.

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ Yours for Business,

## S. S. COBB.

Oklahoma. They state that the Delawares from whom they have been renting have concluded that they were not getting enough for their land and raised the rent; quite a number of these men came from Illinois a few years ago and have been saving their money. They could not buy land up there and are determined to go to Oklahoma where they expect to purchase farms.—South McAlester Capital.

J. R. Jewell, in charge of the New York Indian agency, says in his report to the Indian bureau of the interior department, that after careful investigation, he finds that the funds of the Seneca Indian nation are almost wholly absorbed by the officers of the nation, and that they are in collusion with white men for such purposes. The history of the socialistic or community system has been the same all over the world, and the Cherokee nation is nearing the same disastrous end. It is time to call a halt.—Fairland Bee.

The 72 prisoners in the United States jail were quietly moved from the old to the new jail, just west of the court house, this afternoon. The new quarters are a decided improvement on the old building. The sleeping rooms for whites and negroes are separated by a partition, and a large coal stove is erected in each room. As formerly, the prisoners will be allowed the freedom of the jail yard within the walls, and the method of guarding the building will be the same as before.—Ardmoreite.

It is not often that a contributor to a magazine spends five millions or so of dollars in fitting himself to write knowingly of a subject, but if popular report be true, that is, approximately, the sum which Joseph Leiter expended in the acquisition of the information necessary to prepare the article which appears over his signature in the November Cosmopolitan on "Wheat." This is Mr. Leiter's first appearance in literature, but

he handles the pen with a bold, firm hand that shows him a man of resources.

The South McAlester Electric Light company this morning filed articles of incorporation with the secretary of state. The incorporators are: A. J. Graham, J. T. Miller, W. J. Wade, Joseph R. Foltz and W. P. Andrews, of Fort Smith, in which city the offices of the company will be located. The capital stock is \$25,000, of which \$5,000 is paid up. L. G. Graham, president; W. P. Andrews, secretary; Joseph R. Foltz, treasurer.—Little Rock Democrat.

A Jayhawker youth contrasts the American and Philippine girls in this way: "Oh, give me the sight of a shoulder white, an eye that is tender and blue, a cheek that's pink with a tint of a rose and hair that is golden in hue. I'm tired of the hair that's black as a spade, I'm tired of brunettes, Uncle Sam, and I beg, that you send me back from this sombre land, this home of the unhosed leg."—Ex.

This is November with its shooting stars and "Indian summer." Time was when this would have been the time to have gone out on a camp hunt and loaded up with venison in a few days. The old Indian legend is that the smoky appearance of the atmosphere was due to the smoke from the guns of the hunters. Of course that legend does not ante date the use of firearms by the red men.

When the Cherokee council which met Monday, the 7th, gets through with its deliberations it may be known definitely whether the Curtis bill is a law or not. Col. Bob Owen, who went to Washington to find out for the fullbloods whether the Curtis bill had really passed, should have saved that long journey by waiting and applying to the council.

Spain had best consult the North American Indian before she throws herself upon the mercy of the United States.